

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) A recording medium having a data structure for managing reproduction of menu data, comprising:

a menu data area storing one or more thumbnail pictures as menu data, each thumbnail picture being stored as a block of menu data; and

a menu management area storing menu management information, the menu management information providing an index to each thumbnail picture in the menu data area.

21. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 20, wherein the menu data area stores at least one thumbnail picture that is associated with a playback unit of video data recorded in a data area of the recording medium.

22. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 20, wherein the menu data area records padding data between at least two of the blocks of menu data.

23-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 20, wherein the menu management information indicates a number of the thumbnail pictures stored in

the menu data area.

26. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 25, wherein the menu management information provides a starting address and ending address of each block of menu data, and a number of starting and ending address pairs indicates the number of the thumbnail pictures stored in the menu data area.

27. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 21, wherein the index to a thumbnail picture is a starting address of the block of menu data for the thumbnail picture in the menu data area.

28. (Previously presented) The recording medium of claim 21, wherein the menu data area stores at least one thumbnail picture that is associated with a playback unit of video data recorded in a data area of the recording medium, and the menu data area records padding data between at least two of the blocks of menu data.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) A method of reproducing menu data recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

reproducing menu management information from the recording medium, the menu management information providing an index to each thumbnail picture in a menu

data area of the recording medium; and

reproducing at least one thumbnail picture stored in the menu data area based on the menu management information, each thumbnail picture being stored as a block of menu data.

31. (Previously presented) A reproduction apparatus, comprising:

a driver for driving an optical reproducing device to reproduce data recorded on the recording medium;

a controller for controlling the driver to reproduce menu management information from the recording medium, the menu management information providing an index to each thumbnail picture in a menu data area of the recording medium, and the controller controlling the driver to reproduce at least one thumbnail picture stored in the menu data area based on the menu management information, each thumbnail picture being stored as a block of menu data.

32. (Previously presented) A method of recording a data structure for managing reproduction of menu data recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

recording one or more thumbnail pictures as menu data in a menu data area of the recording medium, each thumbnail picture being stored as a block of menu data; and

recording menu management information in a menu management area of the

recording medium, the menu management information providing an index to each thumbnail picture in the menu data area.